

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. An end user interface in a bi-directional broadband communication system,
2 wherein said end user interface comprises:
3 multiple ports,
4 at least one end user device connected to each port,
5 a processing unit, and
6 a designation, wherein said designation identifies said multiple ports.
- 1 2. The end user interface of claim 1 further comprising:
2 a transceiver, and wherein said processing unit routes a signal received by said
3 transceiver to one of said multiple ports selected by an end user.
- 1 3. The end user interface of claim 2, wherein said processing unit provides a greeting,
2 and wherein said one of said multiple ports selected by an end user is selected
3 using said greeting.
- 1 4. The end user interface of claim 3, wherein said processing unit provides a message
2 after said greeting.
- 1 5. The end user interface of claim 4, wherein said greeting and said message are
2 customized.
- 1 6. The end user interface of claim 4, wherein said end user interface stores multiple
2 greetings and messages and said processing unit selectively provides said greeting
3 and message from said multiple greetings and messages.

- 1 7. The end user interface of claim 1, wherein said at least one end user device
2 provides a distinct alert.
- 1 8. The end user interface of claim 7, wherein said distinct alert is a distinctive ring.
- 1 9. The end user interface of claim 2, wherein said end user interface displays or
2 announces an identity of said one of said multiple ports selected by an end user.
- 1 10. The end user interface of claim 9, wherein said identity includes one or more of a
2 group comprising a name, number or tone.
- 1 11. The end user interface of claim 1, wherein said broadband communication system
2 includes an Internet Protocol Network supporting Internet Protocol telephony
3 service.
- 1 12. The end user interface of claim 1, wherein said at least one end user device
2 includes one or more POTS telephones or Internet Protocol telephones or digital
3 telephones.
- 1 13. The end user interface of claim 1, wherein said designation is a directory number.
- 1 14. An end user interface in a bi-directional broadband communication system,
2 wherein said end user interface comprises:
3 multiple ports,
4 a processing unit,
5 at least one end user device connected to each port, and
6 multiple designations for identifying said multiple ports.

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- 1 15. The end user interface of claim 14 further comprising:
2 a transceiver,
3 a signal, including one of said multiple designations, received by said transceiver,
4 wherein said processing unit routes said signal to one of said multiple ports
5 depending on said one of said multiple designations or depending on a port
6 selected by an end user.
- 1 16. The end user interface of claim 15 wherein said processing unit provides a
2 greeting, and said port selected by an end user is selected using said greeting.
- 1 17. The end user interface of claim 16, wherein said processing unit provides a
2 message after said one of said multiple ports is selected.
- 1 18. The end user interface of claim 17, wherein said greeting and said message are
2 customized.
- 1 19. The end user interface of claim 17, wherein said end user interface stores multiple
2 greetings and messages and said processing unit selectively provides said greeting
3 and message from said multiple greetings and messages.
- 1 20. The end user interface of claim 14, wherein said at least one end user device
2 provides a distinct alert.
- 1 21. The end user interface of claim 20, wherein said distinct alert is a distinctive ring.
- 1 22. The end user interface of claim 15, wherein said end user interface displays or
2 announces an identity of said one of said multiple ports selected by an end user.

1 23. The end user interface of claim 22, wherein said identity includes one or more of a
2 group comprising a name, number or tone.

1 24. The end user interface of claim 14, wherein said broadband communication system
2 includes an Internet Protocol Network supporting Internet Protocol telephony
3 service.

1 25. The end user interface of claim 14, wherein said at least one end user device
2 includes one or more POTS telephones or Internet Protocol telephones or digital
3 telephones.

1 26. The end user interface of claim 1 wherein said designation is a directory number.

1 27. A method of associating a directory number with multiple ports on an end user
2 interface in a broadband communications system supporting Internet Protocol
3 telephony service comprising the steps of:
4 mapping said directory number with said multiple ports on said end user interface,
5 receiving an incoming call,
6 selecting a port, and
7 directing said incoming call to said selected port.

1 28. The method of claim 27 further comprising the steps of:
2 alerting to said incoming call using a distinctive alert associated with said selected
3 port.

1 29. The method of claim 27 further comprising the step of:
2 providing a greeting, wherein said step of selecting a port further includes using
3 said greeting to select said port.

- 1 30. The method of claim 29 further comprising the step of:
2 providing a message after said greeting.
- 1 31. The method of claim 30 wherein said greeting and said message are customized.
- 1 32. The method of claim 30 further comprising the step of:
2 selecting said greeting and said message from multiple greetings and messages.
- 1 33. The method of claim 27 wherein each of said multiple ports includes a unique
2 identity and displaying or announcing said unique identity of said selected port.
- 1 34. A method of associating multiple directory numbers with multiple ports on an end
2 user interface in a broadband communications system supporting Internet Protocol
3 telephony service comprising the steps of:
4 mapping said multiple directory numbers with said multiple ports on said end user
5 interface device,
6 receiving an incoming call, wherein said incoming call includes a directory number
7 directing said incoming call to one of said multiple ports.
- 1 35. The method of claim 34 wherein said step of directing said incoming call further
2 includes:
3 selecting a port, and
4 directing said incoming call to said selected port.
- 1 36. The method of claim 34 wherein said step of directing said incoming call further
2 includes:
3 directing said incoming call to a port associated with the directory number of said
4 incoming call.

1 37. The method of claim 35 further comprising the step of:
2 alerting to said incoming call using a distinctive alert associated with said selected
3 port.

1 38. The method of claim 37, wherein said distinctive alert comprises a distinctive ring.

1 39. The method of claim 34 further comprising the step of:
2 providing a greeting and message to said caller, wherein
3 said greeting and said message are customized or selected from multiple greetings
4 or messages.

1 40. The method of claim 35 wherein each of said multiple ports includes a unique
2 identity and displaying or announcing said unique identity of said selected port.

1 41. An interface at the customer premises for connecting to a broadband access
2 network supporting packetized internet protocol voice service comprising:
3 a transceiver connected to a hybrid-fiber coaxial distribution plant,
4 multiple ports,
5 at least one communication device connected to each port,
6 a processing unit,
7 a designation, wherein said designation identifies said multiple ports, and
8 said processing unit routes an internet protocol voice packet received by said
9 transceiver to one of said multiple ports.

1 42. An interface at the customer premises for connecting to a broadband access
2 network supporting packetized internet protocol voice service comprising:
3 a transceiver connected to a hybrid-fiber coaxial distribution plant,
4 multiple ports,
5 a processing unit,

6 at least one communication device connected to each port,
7 multiple designations for identifying said multiple ports, wherein
8 said processing unit routes an internet protocol voice packet received by said
9 transceiver to one of said multiple ports.

1 43. An interface at the customer premises for connecting to a broadband access
2 network supporting packetized internet protocol voice service comprising:
3 a transceiver connected to a hybrid-fiber coaxial distribution plant,
4 multiple ports,
5 at least one communication device connected to each port,
6 a processing unit, wherein
7 said transceiver receives an internet protocol voice packet, and an end user selects
8 one of said multiple ports to route said voice packet thereto using a greeting.